

**Department of Historic Resources  
Reconnaissance Level Survey**

**Accomack**

**DHR Id#: 001-0027-0109**

**Resource Identification**

Property Name(s): ..... WFF # X-055 – General Services Building  
{Function/Location}  
Scout Project Office {Historic}  
Property Date: ..... 1946  
Address(s): ..... Island Road {Current}  
County/Independent City: Accomack  
City: .....  
State, Zip: ..... Virginia  
USGS Quad Name: ..... WALLOPS ISLAND  
Surrounding area: ..... Rural

**National Register Eligibility Status**

Property is Historic (50 years or older)

Property has not been evaluated

**Resource Description**

Ownership Status: ..... Public - Federal  
Acreage: ..... 0.5  
Resource is open to the public

**Primary Resource Exterior Component Description:**

<u>Component</u>	<u>Comp Type/Form</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Material Treatment</u>
Chimneys	Chimneys - None		
Foundation	Foundation - Slab	Concrete	Foundation - Poured
Porch	Porch - None		
Structural System	Structural System - Masonry	Stucco	Structural System - Stuccoed
Windows	Windows - Fixed/Sash	Metal	Windows - Original Replaced

Site Description: ..... The structure is located on the west side of Island Road, south of the access road that leads to the causeway that connects to the mainland. The building is in a level area, north of the X-035 Damage Control and Service Shops (001-0027-0108) and the other buildings of the X area.

**WUZIT Count:**

<u>No.</u>	<u>Wuzit Types</u>	<u>Historic?</u>
1	Administration Bldg.	Historic

**NR Resource Count:**

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***Individual Resource Information***

WUZIT: ..... Administration Bldg.

*Est. Date of Construction: ....* 1947 {Owner/written data} *Accessed? .....* No Not accessible

*Primary Resource? .....* Yes *Number of Stories: .....* 1.0

*Architectural Style: .....* Other *Condition: .....* Good

*Interior Plan Type: .....* Other *Threats to Resource: .....* None Known

*Description:* This simple, one-story, rectangular building is made of concrete block covered with a modern, spray-on stucco finish. A pair of centrally placed, steel and glass entry doors pierces the east (front) elevation. A thin horizontal line marks an elevated base of the building. A concrete ramp has been constructed leading from an area near the southeast corner to the entry doors. A set of three steps leads up to a landing, which offers entry through the doors. Two rectangular concrete pads mark the edge of the raised entryway. To the left and right of the entry doors are three rectangular aluminum, replacement sash windows. These identical windows are metal, and subdivide the glass into nine panes. The west elevation of the building is eight bays wide. In the first bay at the northwest corner of the building is found a horizontally shaped six-pane window. The second and third bays each hold a single three-bay window. The fourth bay is identical in size to the windows in the second and third bays, but is a louvered window. The fifth bay contains a metal-clad door. The sixth through eighth bay contain windows identical to those found on the front of the building. Each of these contains nine lights. The north end of the building also employs the same sheathing and window treatments found in the front elevation. A single window is placed near the southeast and southwest corner. Each smoked glass replacement window is subdivided by metal bands into nine panes of glass. Centrally placed above these windows is one metal vent. The top of the building is marked by an aluminum or other metal roof cap. The south end of the building is identical to the north end of the building.

***Cemetery Information***

***Bridge Information***

***National Register Eligibility Information***

*Historic Context(s): .....* Technology/Engineering

*Historic Time Period(s):.....* S- The New Dominion (1941- Present)

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*Significance Statement:* This one-story building was built in 1946 by the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics (NACA) and was part of the first permanent NACA construction efforts on Wallops Island. Constructed in 1946, the General Services Building it served as the island's headquarters and contained offices for administration and staff with a photo laboratory and communication center. Located just to the south of the intersection of the Island Road and the road leading to the causeway, the building is now part of the Wallops Flight Facility (WFF). It is placed to the north of the Damage Control and Service Shops (001-0027-0108, WFF # X-035) and the other buildings of the X building area, on the west side of Island Road.

The building is representative of a Technology/Engineering property type built at the beginning of the New Dominion Period (1945 – present) period. The building was constructed as a component of a rocket research facility operated by the Pilotless Aircraft Research Station (PARS) under the direction of NACA from 1946 to 1958. Until becoming part of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in 1958, PARS functioned as a rocket research facility that continually refined its capacity to collect aeronautic and scientific data through improvements in radar tracking, radio telemetry, and photographic techniques that provided significant data for the development of Cold War missile technology and manned spaceflight during the Space Race.

The General Services Building has been evaluated both as a contributing resource in a historic district and as an individual resource. Issues of significance, integrity, and district boundaries were carefully considered. A proposed district comprising this resource lacks integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association due to the demolition of many of the buildings from the period of significance (1936 to 1959), the removal of much of the historic fabric from the majority of extant buildings, and the construction of later buildings. Thus a historic district here is not eligible under Criterion A, B, C, or D.

The resource is not eligible for listing in the National Register or the Virginia Landmarks Register under Criterion A, B, C, or D. The resource does not by itself sufficiently embody a quality of significance associated with events in order to be eligible under Criterion A, nor does it sufficiently embody a quality of significance associated with a person in order to be eligible under Criterion B. While the resource retains its location, setting and association, alterations to the building have adversely affected its integrity of design, materials, workmanship and feeling, including the use of a modern spray-on material on the exterior and the replacement of original windows and doors and is therefore not eligible under Criterion C. This property does not have the potential for providing additional information in history or prehistory under Criterion D.

### Bibliographic Documentation

Reference #: 1

Bibliographic RecordType: ..... Book

Author: ..... Shortal

Citation Abbreviation: .....

Notes: ..... Building date determined through use of Wallops Flight Facility list of real property.

### Ownership Information

### Graphic Media Documentation

Medium	Depository ID #	Photo Depository	Date	File Name
35 mm black and white	21542	DHR	2004/07/99	Frames 21 thru 24

### Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Events

**Department of Historic Resources**  
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*CRM Event # 1,*

<i>Cultural Resource Management Event: .....</i>	Reconnaissance Survey
<i>Date: .....</i>	2003/08/08
<i>Organization or Person: .....</i>	URS Group
<i>VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: ..</i>	2003-0571
<i>CRM Event Notes or Comments: .....</i>	7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700 Bethesda, MD 20814

*CRM Event # 2,*

<i>Cultural Resource Management Event: .....</i>	Reconnaissance Survey
<i>Date: .....</i>	2004/07/99
<i>Organization or Person: .....</i>	URS Group
<i>VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: ..</i>	2003-0571
<i>CRM Event Notes or Comments: .....</i>	200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101 Gaithersburg, MD 20878